

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PRETOR 05578 060720Z

20/60

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /005 W

----- 010353

O 042200Z DEC 76 CORRECTED FOR MCN AND MRN

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6351

INFO USUN MISSION NEW YORK 0000

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMCONGEN JOHANNESBURG

AMCONGEN CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS PRETORIA 5578

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN SHD READ 5578 VICE 5576)

USIA FOR IOP/M, IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: RSA PRESS ON DIGGS, AAI CONFERENCE, DEC 4.

SUMMARY: CONGRESSMAN CHARLES DIGGS FRIDAY PRESS CONFERENCE IN CAPE TOWN REPORTED MAINLY IN CAPE TOWN PRESS. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT BUT REPORTS CHARACTERIZED DIGGS AS "TOUGH" AND "OBNXIOUS." ON MASERU AAI CONFERENCE, BLACK AMERICAN DELEGATES QUOTED ON PLANNED ACTION AGAINST RSA. END SUMMARY.

1. ON DIGGS, CAPE TOWN AFRIKAANS PAPER " DIE BURGER" CARRIED LENGTHY REPORT ON FRIDAY PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE " COMMITTED HIMSELF TO TOTAL STRUGGLE AGAINST RSA TO ISOLATE IT FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD." DIGGS QUOTED SAYING HE WOULD RETURN TO USA WITH " RENEWED RESOLUTION" TO PRESSURIZE RSA. HE FAVORED ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, DENIAL OF VISAS, " ANY MEANS SHORT OF MILITARY." HE SAW " NO MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE" BETWEEN SAG AND BLACKS AND " NO INDICATION OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGE." HE BELIEVED COMMUNIST THREAT FROM ANGOLA " OVERPLAYED" AND SAG " PARANOIC" ABOUT IT. THE CUBANS WERE IN ANGOLA AS " TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS, FILLING THE VOID LEFT BY THE PORTUGUESE" AND IT WAS THE " SOVEREIGN RIGHT" OF AN INDEPENDENT ANGOLA TO INVITE THEM. THEY WERE NOT CONTROLLED FROM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PRETOR 05578 060720Z

HAVANA. DIGGS ALSO QUOTED SAYING HE COULD GIVE ASSURANCE THAT

CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN ANGOLA.

2. PRESS CONFERENCE WAS FRONT PAGE LEAD IN CAPE TOWN ENGLISH PAPER "CAPE TIMES" WHICH SAID DIGGS SOUGHT " TOTAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISOLATION OF RSA AND PLEDGED HIMSELF TO WORK ACTIVELY TO ACHIEVE THIS."

3. JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS PAPER " BEELD" (SISTER PAPER OF " DIE BURGER") CARRIED EDITORIAL PAGE COLUMN BH POLITICAL COMMENTATOR "DAWIE" (BELIEVED TO BE PIET CILLIE, EDITOR OF " DIE BURGER") WHICH REFERRED TO " THE OBNOXIUS AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN DIGGS WHO SAYS HE SEES NO CHANGE IN RSA." COLUMN SAID DIGGS SAW NO CHANGE " PARTLY BECAUSE HE DOES NOT WISH TO SEE IT, BUT MORE SO BECAUSE HE ECHOES A REGULAR, OBSTREPEROUS ANTI-SOUTH AFRICAN CHORUS."

4. JOHANNESBURG BLACK-ORIENTED PAPER " WEEKEND WORLD" CARRIED REPORT QUOTING UNAMED BLACK AMERICAN DELEGATES AT MASERU AAI CONFERENCE PROMISING TO " INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A FORCEFUL LOBBY IN THE USA TO ' SUPPORT AFRICAN OBJECTIVES AND A RATIONAL USA POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA.'" REPORT SAID " THE GROUP, INCLUDING SEVERAL CONGRESSMEN, IS DETERMINED TO GET TOUGH WITH THE APARTHEID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA... THEY DECLARED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE LEGITIMACY OF ATTEMPTS BY ' THE PEOPLE' OF RSA, RHODESIA AND SWA TO OVERTHROW THEIR GOVTS BY THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS AVAILABLE, INCLUDING FORCE IF NECESSARY." REPORT QUOTED CONGRESSWOMAN YVONNE BURKE SAYING AT CLOSING SESSION OF CONFERENCE THAT THOUGH USA BLACKS HAD LITTLE ECONOMIC POWER, " WE ARE IN A PECULIAR POWER POSITION BECAUSE WE ARE A SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL FORCE WITHIN THE NATION THAT HAS THE GREATEST POTENTIAL TO INFLUENCE EVENTS IN AFRICA. WE PLEDGE OUR SKILLS, OUR ENERGIES AND OUR RESOURCES TOWARDS THE LIBERATION OF OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA."

(CORRECT MCN NUMBER'S WILL BE ASSIGNED ON NEXT WORK DAY).
HUGHES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, PERSONAL OPINION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRETOR05578
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760449-1298
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761272/aaaacjuw.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RSA PRESS ON DIGGS, AAI CONFERENCE, DEC 4. SUMMARY: CONGRESSMAN CHARLES DIGGS FRIDAY PRESS CONFERENCE IN CAPE TOWN REPORTED MAINLY IN CAPE TOWN PRES S. NO E
TAGS: PFOR, OREP, SF, US, (DIGGS, CHARLES C)
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006